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ATTENTION: WEEKEND EDITORS/PRODUCERS

CITY OF SAN DIEGO CELEBRATES CODE ENFORCEMENT WEEK

Summit Is Planned to Honor Community Volunteers for Their Work in Enhancing San Diego's Quality of Life

San Diego, CA -- Community volunteers, who help the City of San Diego's Code Enforcement professionals make San Diego a better place to live and work, will be recognized at a special summit on **Saturday, September 26, 1998**. This summit is the final event of Code Enforcement Week in the City of San Diego. During the week of September 21 through September 26, the City is honoring Code Enforcement professionals and community volunteers, who work together to protect public safety, eliminate unfair business practices, and improve the quality of life in San Diego through education and enforcement.

Summit '98, Building Partnerships, will focus on the importance of partnerships between community members and Code Enforcement professionals. Community members will attend workshops on environmental clean-up; graffiti control; fire, life, and public safety; neighborhood code compliance; and gang and drug issues. The featured speaker will be Fire Chief Robert E. Osby, who will address the importance of team building and building partnerships to accomplish community-oriented goals.

Summit '98 will take place Saturday, September 26, 1998, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Four Points Hotel, 8110 Aero Drive, San Diego.

Code enforcement is important because neglected property is a sign to a community that no one cares. Abandoned cars, deteriorated buildings, and vacant structures attract crime. Aggressive enforcement of housing, building, zoning, fire, litter, and health and safety regulations prevents crime, protects public health and safety, and revitalizes neighborhoods. Nine City Departments play a role in code enforcement in San Diego. These Departments are Neighborhood Code Compliance; Police; Fire and Life Safety Services; Environmental Services; Development Services; Park and Recreation; Transportation; Water; and the City Attorney. The County of San Diego also plays an important role in local code enforcement. The public is encouraged to visit one of San Diego's community centers to learn more about code enforcement in San Diego.

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